

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 3 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims in the following manner:

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1. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly comprising, in combination:
at least one movable seat track;
a linkage assembly including:

a first link having a first external surface, a first internal surface, and a first aperture extending between the first external surface and the first internal surface;

a second link having a second external surface, a second internal surface, and a second aperture extending between the second external surface and the second internal surface;

a fastener having a head portion, a lip, and a cylindrical body portion extending ~~therefrom and terminating~~ from the head portion to the lip at a distal end opposite said head portion; and

wherein said body portion extends through said first and second apertures and is plastically deformed so that the body portion is expanded outwardly between the head portion and the lip and within the first and second apertures to engage the first and second links within the first and second apertures whereby the fastener secures the first and second links to allow relative rotational movement between the first and second links while preventing relative linear motion therebetween; and

wherein said linkage assembly is operably connected to said seat track to move said seat track.

2. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said first link has a first thickness, said second link has a second thickness, and said body portion has a length that is greater than the sum of the first thickness and the second thickness such that ~~when said~~ first internal face surface of said first link ~~is placed against~~ engages said second internal face surface of said second link, ~~and said body portion is inserted~~ extends through said first and second links, ~~a segment of said body portion extends beyond said links and said lip~~ engages said second external surface of said second link.

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3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein said second link is locked to said fastener via said lip to prevent relative rotational movement between said second link and said fastener while allowing said first link to move freely relative to said first link and said fastener.

5. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein:
the first link has a first thickness ~~between a~~ between said first external surface engaged by the head portion ~~and a~~ and said first internal surface engaged by the second link, ~~and a first aperture extending between the first external surface and the first internal surface;~~

the second link has a second thickness ~~between a~~ between said second external surface engaged by the body portion ~~and a~~ and said second internal surface engaged by the first internal surface, ~~and a second aperture extending between the second external surface and the second internal surface;~~ and

the body portion has a length which is greater than the sum of the first thickness and the second thickness such that the first internal surface of the first link is positioned against the second internal surface of the second link, the body portion extends through the first and second apertures of the first and second links, ~~and a segment of the body portion extends beyond the first and second members~~ the lip is positioned against the second external surface of the second link.

6. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said body portion has a central bore with an internal diameter.

7. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 6, wherein:
said first link has a first thickness;
said second link has a second thickness; and
the central bore has a length which is greater than the first thickness and less than the sum of the first thickness and the second thickness.

8. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 6, wherein said central bore extends for a length less than the total length of the body portion.

9. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 6, wherein said central bore is open at the end of the body portion ~~opposite the head portion~~ at the lip and is closed ~~toward~~ at the end of the body portion at the head portion.

10. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said linkage assembly is operably connected to said seat track to vertically move said seat track.

11. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said body portion comprises plastically deformable material for ~~forming a~~ forming said lip at the distal end and engaging one the first and second links.

12. (previously presented) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the cylindrical body portion has an external diameter and said head portion is enlarged such that the head portion extends radially outward beyond the external diameter of the body portion.

13. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly comprising, in combination:
at least one movable seat track;
a linkage assembly including:

a first link having a first external surface, a first internal surface, a first thickness extending between the first exterior surface and the first interior surface, and a first aperture extending between the first external surface and the first internal surface;

a second link having a second external surface, a second internal surface, a second thickness extending between the second exterior surface and the second interior surface, and a second aperture extending between the second external surface and the second internal surface;

a fastener having a head portion, a lip, and a body portion extending outwardly from said head portion to the lip and defining an external diameter, said body portion being generally cylindrical and having a central bore with an internal diameter, and the central bore has

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a length which is greater than the first thickness and less than the first thickness and the second thickness combined; and

wherein said body portion extends through said first and second apertures and is plastically deformed so that the body portion is expanded outwardly between the head portion and the lip within the first and second apertures to engage the first and second links within the first and second apertures whereby the fastener secures the first and second links to allow relative rotational movement between the first and second links while preventing relative linear motion therebetween; and

wherein said linkage assembly is operably connected to said seat track to move said seat track.

14. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein the body portion of the fastener has a length that is greater than the sum of the first thickness and the second thickness such that ~~with~~ the first internal surface of the first link is positioned against the second internal surface of the second link and the body portion ~~extending extends~~ through the first and second apertures of the first and second links with the head portion engaging the first external surface, ~~a segment of the body portion extends beyond the first and second links~~ and the lip engaging the second external surface.

15. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein said body portion terminates at a distal end opposite said head portion and said distal end is plastically deformed by a longitudinal load in a direction from the distal end toward the head portion.

16. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 15, wherein said distal end is plastically deformed to ~~form a~~ form said lip for engaging one of the first and second links.

17. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 16, wherein said lip locks the fastener to one of the first and second links via said lip to prevent relative rotational

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movement between the one link and the fastener while allowing the other link to rotate around the fastener.

18. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein said central bore extends from an end of the body portion opposite the head portion for a length less than the total length of the body portion.

19. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein said linkage assembly is operably connected to said seat track to vertically move said seat track.

20. (original) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein the cylindrical body portion has an external diameter and said head portion is enlarged such that the head portion extends radially outward beyond the external diameter of the body portion.

21. (previously presented) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the fastener secures the first and second links to allow relative rotational movement between the first and second links while preventing relative linear motion therebetween in all directions perpendicular to a direction the fastener is extending through the first and second links.

22. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the distal end of the body portion is plastically deformed to form the lip.

23. (currently amended) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the lip secures the first and second links to allow relative rotational movement between the first and second links while preventing relative linear motion therebetween in a direction the fastener is extending through the first and second links.

24. (previously presented) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein the fastener secures the first and second links to allow relative rotational movement between the first and second links while preventing relative linear motion therebetween in all

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directions perpendicular to a direction the fastener is extending through the first and second links.

25. (previously presented) A vehicle seat mounting assembly as recited in claim 16, wherein the lip secures the first and second links to allow relative rotational movement between the first and second links while preventing relative linear motion therebetween in a direction the fastener is extending through the first and second links.
